

CHARLESTOWN HERITAGE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, 26 July, 2011 7:00 pm
Bakery Building, Main Street, Charlestown, NH

Present: Wesley Van Velsor, Joyce Higgins, Terry Spilsbury, Carol Clark, alternates Aare Ilves and Sue Richardson

Absent: Barbara Jones and Eric Lutz

The meeting was called to order at 7:14 pm by Chairperson Terry Spilsbury. In the absence of Barbara and Eric, Aare and Sue were seated as alternates.

1. Wes made a motion to approve the minutes for the 16 May, 2011 meeting, seconded by Sue, and the minutes were unanimously passed. Wes made a motion to approve the minutes for the 24 May, 2011 meeting, seconded by Sue, and the minutes were unanimously passed with the exception of the abstention of Joyce who was absent for that meeting.
2. Aare distributed the Heritage Commission financial report dated 01/01/11 through 7/25/11 for year to date expenses. Aare moved that the Commission transfer \$500 from the General fund to the Tree Committee Projects fund to repay the Tree Committee. Wes seconded this motion and it was unanimously passed. Joyce stated that the January to April bills from the Historical Society have been processed to reimburse Judy for her work on the Third History. Joyce also stated that she has submitted recent invoices from Judy to Jessica for payment. Aare had not yet seen any more recent bills as of this date, and Joyce agreed to give future bills to Aare for payment processing. The Historical Society will prepare bills to the Town of Charlestown for reimbursement. The Heritage Commission has roughly \$2,000 to spend from this year and last year's Warrant Articles.
3. Joyce has been working on updates for the east side of Main Street properties. Terry will notify Eric that Joyce received the last disk with no data on information for town businesses. Joyce will review hard copy material relative to businesses to determine what will be included in the Third History. She indicated that several things have recently come in to be included in the History. She further stated that editing and indexing processes will take an extensive amount of time. Wes and Terry will continue to discuss the publication and financial strategy side of the Third History. Sue suggested that we put a request in *Our Town* for public submissions regarding schools and other possible topics.
4. Wes stated that the person working on a bench prototype will soon have something to show. The location the Commission would like to see as a starting point for the benches is in front of the Silsby Library.
5. Aare passed out a report from the Tree Committee regarding new landscaping efforts across Main Street near the bulletin board. The Heritage Commission offered material suggestions to help complete this area. The Commission requested that the Tree Committee consider that the long-term solutions for the planter box material need to be consistent with the historic nature of Main Street. Aare will pass on the Commission's suggestions to the Tree Committee.

6. Terry stated that the Essay Contest went smoothly this year, with approximately 60 students writing an essay, and roughly 20 essays being submitted to the Commission. Joyce, Terry, and Carol read and judged the essays. Of those chosen for awards, one chose to write about the 1930's decade, one chose an historic figure from Charlestown, one interviewed a long-time Charlestown resident, and multiple essays were about Carlton Fisk. It was recommended that we run the essay contest again next year, and have the awards presentation during the month of May.
7. There is no further news on the Fort at #4.
8. Wes stated that contributions toward the cost of the cannon housing are being solicited.
9. There will be a public meeting this Thursday at the Town Hall, presided by the Rotary, to discuss safety and fire issues for the Hall.
10. Sue Richardson will write an article for the next issue of *Our Town* to solicit information on local schools and other items.
11. A suggestion was made that the meetings start earlier in the evening, but consensus was that the starting time should remain 7:00pm. The meeting was adjourned at 9:35.

The next Heritage Commission meeting is scheduled for August 23, 7:00 pm at the Bakery building.

Carol Clark
Secretary

Approved minutes